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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/727,246	11/30/2000	Christopher Joseph Berens	100.142US01	4356

7590 05/26/2004

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EXAMINER

HA, DAC V

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2634

DATE MAILED: 05/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/727,246

Applicant(s)

BERENS ET AL.

Examiner

Dac V. Ha

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

1. This is in response to the Response to Restriction Requirement filed on 03/08/04.

Upon further consideration, the restriction requirement is withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. **Claim 8** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

4. **Claim 8** recites the limitation "the received data" in line 2. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. **Claims 1, 13, 14, 21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Takla (US 6,044,123).

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Regarding claim 1, Takla teaches the followings.

"estimating a frequency ... into a transmitted data stream" (Abstract; Col. 1, lines 30-31; Col. 2, lines 16-19; Col. 3, lines 66-67) (where the frequency of the clock embedded in the data signal is predetermined);

"capturing the embedded ... estimated frequency" (Abstract; Col. 1, line 40-44; Col. 4, line 4 to Col. 7, line 42).

Regarding claim 13, see claim 1 above. Further, Takla teaches "decoding ... decoded estimate" in Col. 2, line 63 to Col. 3, line 34.

Regarding claim 14, see claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 21, Takla teaches all the claimed subject matter "a clock control ... receive end" in Figure 2.

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

7. **Claim 15** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Van.

Regarding claim 15, Van teaches all the claimed subject matter "a transmit end ... data" in Figure 1.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. **Claims 3-8, 19, 20, 22-24, 26-30** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takla.

Regarding claim 3, the “data frequency” is predetermined and conveyed to the receiver from the transmitter in known manner. Thus, the presentation of such information is design preference. Therefore, the claimed subject matter “creating ... identifier” would have been optional one skilled in the art.

Regarding claims 4-8, these claimed subject matter would have been obviously optional to one skilled in the art for similar reasoning applied to claim 2 above.

Regarding claim 19, see claim 1. Further, the claimed subject matter “a protocol interface” would have been obvious to one skilled in the art.

Regarding claim 20 the claimed subject matter “a serial ... buffer” would have been optional to one skilled in the art.

Regarding claims 22-24 these claimed subject matter would have been optional to one skilled in the art.

Regarding claims 26-28, see claim 20.

Regarding claims 29-30, see claims 16-17.

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10. **Claims 16-18, 25** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Van.

Regarding claims 16-17, these claimed subject matter would have been obviously obvious to one skilled in the art.

Regarding claim 18, see claim 16.

Regarding claim 25, see claim 16.

11. **Claim 2** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takla in view of Guo (US 5,400,370).

Regarding claim 2, Takla teaches all the claimed subject matter in claim 2, as stated above, except for the claimed subject matter "buffering the incoming data in an input buffer". Guo, in the same field of endeavor, teaches the use of "buffering the incoming data" is known (Figure 12, element 40). Thus, the claimed subject matter "buffering the incoming data in an input buffer" would have been optional to one skilled in the art.

12. **Claims 9-12** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Guo in view of Van der Putten et al. (US 6,072,810) (hereinafter Van).

Regarding claim 9, Guo teaches all the claimed subject matter in claim 9 in Col. 1, line 42 to Col. 5, line 7; Col. 6, line 3 to Col. 8, line 53, except for the claimed subject matter "ATM". However, serial data with embedded clock therein used in ATM environment is known in the art (Van, Col. 1, line 17-43). Thus, the claimed subject construction of ATM communication, as claimed, would have been obvious to Guo in view of Van.

Regarding claims 10-12, these claimed subject matter would have been obviously optional to one skilled in the art.

Conclusion

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Casper et al. (US 5,963,608) disclose Clock Extractor For High Speed Variable Data Rate Communication System.

Chen (US 5,850,422) discloses Apparatus And Method For Recovering A Clock Signal Wich Is Embedded In An Incoming Data Stream.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Dac V. Ha whose telephone number is 703-306-5536. The examiner can normally be reached on 5/4.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Chin can be reached on 703-305-4714. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dac V. Ha', written over a horizontal line.

Dac V. Ha
Examiner
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